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To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/24/02 12:40pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

I am writing to express my dismay at the way the Federal Government's case against Microsoft has ended up. I have worked in the information technology industry since 1966 and Microsoft's behavior has been very detrimental to the health and competitiveness of the IT industry.

Microsoft is not simply an "efficient competitor," it is a business that cannot, and has not, tolerated any competition, almost without regard to the size of the competing business, in the markets Microsoft is interested in.

Microsoft has repeatedly said it believes it has done nothing wrong, with the singleminded conviction of a business that has only one goal in mind, to dominate an entire industry. Microsoft has shown that it will thumb its nose at the mild remedies imposed on it in the past, and it will continue to do this in the future, if strict and enforceable remedies are not imposed this time. Leaving Microsoft intact as a company was certainly a mistake.

My belief is that people who are supporting Microsoft have a vested financial interest in the company and their products, there is no ethical or legal consideration on their part. Microsoft still believes no one has the right to "interfere" with how it does business and will continue its monopoly behavior in the future - limiting choice, controlling prices and controlling access to the Internet, if allowed. Their schemes for controlling who uses their operating systems under what conditions and their schemes that involve the .NET business model, show the scope of their ambition.

We have little choice today (and businesses have almost no choice for desktop operating systems and applications) and we will have absolutely no choice in the future if something drastic is not done.

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